

COUNTRY _____ REPORT _____

TOPIC General Military Information

EVALUATION _____ 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED _____ 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT _____ 25X1

DATE OBTAINED _____ DATE PREPARED 28 August 1953

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

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1. On 18 August 1953, a shipment of 20 T-34 tanks and 13 trucks, as well as 200 troops, were seen passing through the Cottbus railroad station, coming from the direction of Lieberose and proceeding toward Leipzig-Plackwitz.¹

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2. _____, at 11:30 p.m. on 7 August, a train of 28 flatcars, each carrying a 152-mm gun; and 20 boxcars occupied by troops was seen at the Koenigswusterhausen railroad station, proceeding toward Furstenwalde/Spree. _____ at about 1 a.m. on 8 August, a train of 30 flatcars carrying trucks, and 50 boxcars occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets was at the Cottbus railroad station, proceeding toward Frankfurt/Oder. Between 1 a.m. and 3 a.m. on 9 August, 2 trains, each of about 60 boxcars and flatcars, passed through the Luebbenau railroad station, proceeding toward Berlin.² At 11 p.m. on 10 August, a train of 50 boxcars and flatcars carrying trucks, sections of prefabricated houses and escorting personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets was seen at the Cottbus railroad station, proceeding toward Brand.² At about 3 a.m. on 11 August, this shipment was followed by a train of 50 boxcars and flatcars, carrying trucks and sections of prefabricated houses.²

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3. On 14 August, the following troops and materiel from the barracks installation east of Leipziger Strasse were entrained at the Altenburg freight station between 3 p.m. and 9 p.m.: 12 x 76-mm AT guns and 12 trucks on 12 flatcars with sideracks; and 3 x 76-mm AT guns, 3 trucks, 1 radio truck, 2 trucks with van-like trailers, 1 trailer, which source believed was a caravan; 14 other trucks, and about 140 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. All trucks were loaded, covered with tarpaulins. _____ Two colonels and two lieutenant colonels arrived at the station on two sedans _____

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4. At about 4 p.m. on 1 August, T-43 tanks [] arrived at the Gotha railroad station from the direction of Ohrdruf. Troop trains passing through the Gotha railroad station included: a train, including 9 boxcars occupied by about 100 troops; and carrying 8 x 122-mm field howitzers and 24 trucks, coming from the direction of Erfurt and proceeding toward Ohrdruf at 4 p.m. on 5 August;

a train carrying 1 T-43 tank, light AA guns and 6 trucks; and including 4 boxcars occupied by about 40 troops, coming from the direction of Erfurt and proceeding toward Ohrdruf at 8 a.m. on 7 August; and a train carrying about 30 trucks and 15 x 120-mm mortars, coming from the direction of Ohrdruf and proceeding toward Erfurt at 2 p.m. on 13 August.⁴

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1. [] Comment. [] shipment of this tank battalion from the direction of Leipzig to the Lieberose area.

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2. [] Comment. The trains which passed through Cottbus and proceeded toward Brand-Berlin may have carried ground units of the fighter regiment which transferred from Alt-Loennowitz to Brand.

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3. [] Comment. The two trains carried elements of the 38th Army AT Arty Brig which presumably transferred to the Ohrdruf troop training grounds.

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4. [] Comment. The four trains are rather safely believed to have carried elements of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps, and the train on 1 August, [] tanks of the 65th Gds Mecz Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div. The trains have not been indicated in reports on transportation.

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